Luton Investment Framework
January - March 2018

www.luton.gov.uk/LIF
2018: The year so far...

Our plan to transform the town, as part of the Luton Investment Framework continues to gain momentum with a great start to the year.

We are really committed in our aim to enhance people’s lives and the launch of a new programme targeted at young people as well as two employment and training fairs were an example of how, when working with our partners, we can help people gain new skills and improve their opportunities.

There have also been some really positive stories to tell about activities and projects taking place in schools in Luton from sports achievements, health and wellbeing schemes and career days which again help to raise the aspirations of young people. There was also the announcement of a new academy which will help support the town’s growing population.

Finally, we were excited to announce a range of festivities taking place over this year and next as part of our 2018/19 commemorations. It is an important time for the nation and Luton with anniversaries marking a number of key events and is a real chance for people to come together, have fun and we really hope people get involved.

Cllr Hazel Simmons MBE
Leader of Luton Council
London Luton Airport Ltd (LLAL) submitted the planning application for New Century Park, located to the east of the airport, aimed at bringing 3,200 new jobs to the town. The development is part of the London Luton Airport Enterprise Zone which in total will deliver up to 7,200 new jobs and inward investment to support economic growth across the sub-region.

The plan includes an access road, improved park facilities including upgraded pavilion and play and skate spaces, together with a large area of new public open space to replace the part of the park that is needed for the development.

NOAH Enterprise and local businesses helped Luton’s homeless by delivering soup to those sleeping rough. The initiative was developed between four community schools in Luton and Food Count with leftover vegetables being made into soup which was condensed, frozen and donated to NOAH Enterprise. Roland Allen Ltd donated equipment and Sparshotts Fruiterers provided sponsorship.

Hillborough Junior School won first place at the Luton School’s Kurling Competition at Luton Sixth Form College.

Thirty-four teams took part in the games and Hillborough claimed first and second place.

The school will represent Luton at the County Kurling finals in June.

Ferrars Academy pupils took part in a yoga session funded by the Sports Premium.

The school introduced yoga in a bid to improve pupil’s concentration, self-esteem, balance and physical flexibility which contribute to pupils’ overall wellbeing and underpins their attainment.

A trained instructor led workshops with pupils before delivering training to all staff and a taster session to parents.
The Airport’s £160 million redevelopment programme entered its final phase with the opening of the first floor of the terminal extension. Ten new retailers have opened at LLA since the start of 2018. These include Oliver Bonas’ first ever airport store, as well as Hugo Boss, Ted Baker, Rituals and Fiorelli. The new retail openings, along with the wider transformation, offer passengers an enhanced experience as they travel through the airport with a new boarding pier opening in the spring.

A specialist Luton training team received the NSPCC’s prestigious Elephant award in recognition of their work to train staff to use a unique assessment tool. The Graded Care Profile 2 measures the quality of care being given to a child by helping them identify anything that puts them at risk of harm. It also helps practitioners to identify parents’ strengths, weaknesses and what needs to be changed so that they can get them the right support to improve the life of their child.

The team, made up of individuals from different services, delivered the specialist training to professionals across the town working in health, children’s services, youth offending, police, housing and the voluntary sector.

The 16x16 programme was launched to help young people get ready for the workplace. It forms part of the £1.9 million Luton Investment Framework (LIF) Skills and Opportunities programme. It is a three year plan to strengthen the links between education and employment.

The programme developed with schools, further and higher education partners, learning providers, and employers is aimed at 14-16 year olds. Following the pilot, it is planned to roll the project out to all Luton schools from September 2018.

London Luton Airport (LLA) announced 15.8 million passengers travelled through the airport in 2017, marking an 8.6% increase compared with the previous year and making 2017 the airport’s busiest year on record.

The University of Bedfordshire opened its new nursing simulation suite at the Luton campus. It is designed to replicate a general hospital ward, and includes an operating theatre, pre-op, post-op and critical care areas, as well as neo-natal facilities.

The suite provides Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedic Science and Operating Department Practice. It offers students an authentic environment where they can develop the skills, alongside classroom and work placement settings.
Michaela Nutt joined the Luton Investment Framework Team as Cultural Enabler. She will be leading on the 10 year Arts and Cultural Strategy which includes the Luton Arts Fund and Creative Forum.

February

The bi-annual LETS (Luton Employment, Training and Skills) Fair took place. It was another popular event attracting job hunters looking for help and guidance. There was also special advice available on applying for jobs in the digital world.

The University of Bedfordshire announced its 2018 Testbeds artist cohort, part of Arts Council England’s Luton Investment Programme. Testbeds is a professional development programme that enhances artists’ capacity to live, work and thrive locally as well as become leaders in innovative, cross-disciplinary research as catalysts for social change. The group will work closely with the University of Bedfordshire staff and students and local outreach work to make a tangible impact on the growth of the creative industries in Luton.

The council was one of five local authorities to have successfully secured a grant from the government to improve the infrastructure for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs). Over the next few months an additional ten electric vehicle fast charging points will be added to the existing six points around the town centre.

The council announced a series of events commemorating significant moments in Luton and the nation’s history throughout 2018 and 2019. These include the 100 year anniversaries of the end of World War I, the first Act of Parliament giving some women the right to vote, the founding of the Royal Air Force, the 80th anniversary of London Luton Airport opening, and 70 years since the Windrush passenger liner arrived. In 2019 the centenary of Luton’s infamous ‘Peace Day’ riots, which led to the burning down of the Town Hall, will take place.

The Royal British Legion, the council, partner organisations, local businesses and charities have come together to organise a number of commemorative events across Luton.
Two groups of students from the University of Bedfordshire were shortlisted in the Comedy and Entertainment category for a game show ‘Have a Seat’ and music show ‘Press Play’ at this year’s Royal Television Society’s (RTS) East Student Awards.

Restoration work started at Manor Park. Affinity Water is working with the council to make vital improvements to the landscapes of local chalk streams. The redesign will make the riverbank more accessible and provide a new, relocated play area, replacing some of the play equipment. The works will improve the appearance and accessibility of the riverbank, replacing the existing concrete steps down to the river with a footpath, and provide a better habitat for fish, plants and invertebrates.

Central Bedfordshire College celebrated the success of their Student Services Team as ‘Professional Services Team of the Year 2018’ at the Times Educational Supplement FE Awards. These celebrate and reward the dedication, expertise and hard work of those who contribute significantly to improving the skill levels of young people and adult learners.
Christine Johnson joined the Luton Investment Framework Team as the new Employability Coordinator. She will be leading on the 16x16 young people’s programme working with schools and employers.

The Secretary of State has granted the Chiltern Learning Trust a Funding Agreement to open The Chiltern Academy, a new 1,200 place secondary school. The school will open in temporary accommodation in York Street and will transfer to their new building on Gypsy Lane in September 2019. The council worked in partnership with the Chiltern Learning Trust, on this project, to provide additional education infrastructure to support the town’s growing population.

March

Someries Infant School received the prestigious Artsmark Award - an Arts Council England recognition for schools that champion the arts and strive for excellence. It celebrates schools that embrace the arts across the curriculum, bringing them to life for children and young people.

As an Artsmark school, Someries Infant School has gained access to networks and resources from cultural organisations such as the National Gallery.

The school continues to incorporate art and culture into every pupil’s life, learning, knowledge and understanding, helping them to build skills, resilience, confidence and character.
On World Book Day, J S Landor previously known as Jenny Mead visited Bushmead Primary School, where she was once a pupil. She talked about her debut novel ‘The mirror of Pharos’. After primary school Jenny went to Denbigh High School, then Luton Sixth Form College before studying literature at King’s College, London.

The council’s Public Protection Team launched its ambition to end the criminal exploitation of adults across partners.

The second annual Great Luton Spring Clean took place with residents, businesses and organisations all involved.

Luton Music Service was successful in their bid (£380,000 per year) to continue to run the Luton Music Education Hub for a further two years. The Luton Music Education Hub - The Mix, will deliver the National Plan for Music Education to all children and young people in Luton. It also acts as an advocate for music education, encouraging participation and providing innovations in delivery locally to improve music making for and by children and young people. The Mix is a partnership of over 15 organisations including all schools, the council and residents.
Almost 800 local people attended the apprenticeship focused LETS fair. Attendees learnt about courses on offer from 24 exhibitors, further education options and what they might need to be able to start an apprenticeship. The variety of apprenticeships on offer ranged from hair and beauty to construction and business. Those who attended were also given free career advice.

Flying Start and Luton Early Year’s team launched the resources for the Transition project at the Leagrave Centre. School and early years professionals were introduced to the Flying Start Gold Award for Transition and the information available to support children and their families entering this new phase of their onward education. Leaflets are now available for parents and professionals to help support the smooth transition into school from a child’s early education setting. Resources can be downloaded by visiting the website: www.flyingstartluton.com/transitions
Pupils at Hillborough Junior School immersed themselves in the world of work and heard from a variety of employees at a Careers Day event facilitated by the council and employability education charity, Worktree.

Employees from a wide range of organisations including the council, Machins Solicitors LLP, Vauxhall, The Mall, Luton Town Football Club as well as construction firms Engie, Hone All and more supported the event.

The council was shortlisted for Council of the Year and Team of the Year at the Local Government Chronicle awards. While Luton didn’t win, the significance of being shortlisted for two awards puts Luton amongst the very best local authorities in the country and the judges were clearly impressed by what they saw here.

Aftab Mohiudin joined the Luton Investment Framework Team as Skills Broker. Aftab will be leading on the LIF Skills Adult Programme which is closely linked with the Aspiration Centre and new Skills Platform.
Luton in numbers

22 MINUTES
BY TRAIN FROM LONDON

23 MILLION PEOPLE
WITHIN A TWO HOUR REACH

10 MILES FROM THE M25
EXCELLENT TRANSPORT LINKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ONE OF THE 5 MOST AFFORDABLE TOWNS IN THE COUNTRY FOR COMMUTING TO LONDON

UK’S 5TH BUSIEST AND FASTEST-GROWING AIRPORT
100+ DESTINATIONS ACROSS FOUR CONTINENTS

LONDON LUTON AIRPORT CONTRIBUTES
£2,000 EVERY MINUTE TO THE UK ECONOMY

CATCHMENT WITH 4TH HIGHEST LEVEL OF RETAIL SPEND IN THE UK

18,500 NEW JOBS

MORE THAN £1.5 BILLION PRIVATE INVESTMENT

RICH CULTURE AND HERITAGE
122 LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS, AWARD-WINNING MUSEUMS AND PARKS

92% OF CHILDREN ATTEND GOOD OR EXCELLENT SCHOOLS
PLUS HALF A BILLION POUNDS SPENT ON IMPROVING EDUCATION FACILITIES

8 STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT SITES
ENGINEERING, INNOVATION, EMPLOYMENT, LEISURE, RETAIL, OFFICE ACCOMMODATION AND HOUSING

TOP UK CITY FOR BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY
97.6% OF ADDRESSES CAN CONNECT TO SUPER-FAST BROADBAND

ENTERPRISE ZONE STATUS

01582 546778
LIF@luton.gov.uk
www.luton.gov.uk

@lutoncouncil
lutoncouncil
www.luton.gov.uk/LIF

JN: 127.37
Skills & Opportunities in Luton

Do you want to know about jobs and opportunities in Luton?

Are you interested in changing career?

Would you like to know how to improve your job prospects?

Are you unsure about possible career pathways, training courses and skills required for jobs?

If so, come and visit the mobile Aspiration Centre.

Our experienced staff and partners will be on hand with information on jobs and opportunities across Luton.

You can also find out about developments taking place in the town as part of the Luton Investment Framework – a transformation plan that is changing the town.

To find out more about the Aspiration Centre and when it will be coming to your area email LIF@luton.gov.uk or visit www.luton.gov.uk/aspirationcentre

www.luton.gov.uk/LIF